

## **DEPARTMENT OF THE NAVY**

HEADQUARTERS UNITED STATES MARINE CORPS 3000 MARINE CORPS PENTAGON WASHINGTON, DC 20350-3000

> 5720 ARSF-MP JUN 1 3 2018

SENT VIA FOIAONLINE TO: RAMYA.KRISHNAN@KNIGHTCOLUMBIA.ORG
MS RAMYA KRISHNAN
KNIGHT FIRST AMENDMENT INSTITUTE AT COLUMBIA
1140 AMSTERDAM AVE
206 KENT HALL
NEW YORK NY 10027

Dear Ms. Krishnan:

SUBJECT: YOUR FREEDOM OF INFORMATION ACT (FOIA) REQUEST, FILE NUMBER DON-USMC-2018-002646 (APPEAL DON-NAVY-2018-007012)

This responds to your April 11, 2018, FOIA appeal, originally sent to the Judge Advocate General of the Navy (Code 14), regarding the adequacy of our search and the determination that no records were found. Code 14 remanded your request to us for further processing on May 15, 2018, and we continue to control it under file number **DON-USMC-2018-002646**. In your request, you sought the following:

- 1. all non-disclosure agreements and other agreements, including templates or standard forms of such agreements, imposing prepublication-review obligations on agency and/or former agency employees;
- 2. all documents relating to administrative appeals filed from prepublication-review determinations, including but not limited to:
  - a. administrative appeals;
  - b. any correspondence or back-and-forth between an agency and an individual who filed an administrative appeal; and
  - c. final decisions with respect to administrative appeals;
- 3. all documents relating to any form of sanction imposed, or considered for imposition, on agency and/ or former agency employees for failure to comply with their prepublication-review obligations.

Following Code 14's remand, we requested that additional searches be conducted by the Counsel for the Commandant (CL), HQMC Judge Advocate Division (JA), Office of Marine Corps Communication (OMCC), and the offices of the Deputy Commandants for Plans, Policies, and Operations (PP&O) and Information (DCI). CL, JA, OMCC, and PP&O did identify responsive records, which we have processed and they are currently under final review. We anticipate that this review will be completed next week, at which time we will be able to release them to you. DCI could not locate any records responsive to your request.

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If you consider this to be an adverse determination, you may submit an appeal to the Judge Advocate General (Code 14), 1322 Patterson Avenue SE, Suite 3000, Washington Navy Yard, DC 20374-5066. Your appeal, if any, must be postmarked within 90 calendar days from the date of this letter and should include a copy of your initial request, a copy of this letter, and a statement indicating why you believe it should be granted. We recommend that your appeal and its envelope both bear the notation "Freedom of Information Act Appeal."

You also have the right to seek assistance and/or dispute resolution services from the Department of the Navy FOIA Public Liaison, Mr. Christopher Julka, at (703) 697-0031 or Christopher.a.julka@navy.mil. You may also contact the Office of Government Information Services (OGIS) for assistance and/or dispute resolution at ogis@nara.gov or 1-877-684-6448. For more information online about services provided by OGIS, please visit their website at https://ogis.archives.gov.

We categorized you as a "media/educational requester" for the purpose of assessing FOIA processing fees. As such, you are not responsible for search and review fees, so there is no charge for processing your request.

I am the official responsible for this determination. Should you have questions about this action, please contact Mr. Michael Peters of my staff at (703) 614-4008, via email to hqmcfoia@usmc.mil, or fax at (703) 614-6287. Please reference the file number in the subject line above.

Sincerely,

S. A. HUGHES

Head, FOIA/PA Section